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USSR

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"CLAUDE", "BEN" AND "SISTER" (1945)

From: CANBERRA

To: MOSCOW

No: 141

5 May 45

To VIKTOR[i].

At the regular meeting with "CLAUDE"^X[KLOD]"[ii] on 4th May, the latter was given 15 pounds for the first time on the plausible pretext of compensating him for his personal efforts and the expenditure which he incurs when he meets people on assignments of ours. At first CLAUDE was somewhat taken aback and he declared that he didn't know how to proceed in such a situation, for he had always considered it his duty to help our country. As [2 groups unrecovered], CLAUDE quickly recovered himself, became noticeably more cheerful and expressed a desire to dine with him[iii] sometime.

The money was handed over at the end of the conversation. C.[K.][iv] was also told that the money was intended for him personally and [that] no one should know of it.

C. explained that he[a] an assignment to "BEN"^X[v] [2 groups unrecovered] he is working secretly on carrying out the latter. He promised also to give a [B% reliable] personal report [KHARAKTERISTIKA] on "[B% SISTER [SESTRA]]"[vi] in the near future.

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EFIM[vii]

[Continued overleaf]

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Notes: [a] The verb may have been omitted here.

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

[ii] CLAUDE: Walter Seddon CLAYTON.

[iii] him : There is no evidence to suggest who this was.

[iv] C. : i.e. CLAUDE.

[v] BEN : Alfred HUGHES.

[vi] SISTER: Frances BERNIE.

[vii] ZFIN : Semen Ivanovich MAFAROV.

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